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The Times

MINDEN ONTARIO

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Molly's starts anew as Market Bakery

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

A beautiful display of cookies, cupcakes, and baked goods of all types greet customers as they approach the counter. Delicious smells of freshly made bread waft through

the air.

This June will mark the 14th anniversary of Molly owning and operating Molly's in Minden. Molly's Bistro Bakery has now changed to Molly's Market Bakery.

For around two years, Molly's Bakery Bistro has been for sale.

"We are selling the whole building too,"

explained McInerney. "It's not just the business, so that is a big nut." In addition to the bakery and store space, there is a four bedroom apartment included with the property.

"You could easily convert it into two apartments if you wanted to," said McInerney.

"I love it. It's fun," said Molly McInerney.

"I was born here. My dad was a teacher and a

principal up here back in the 40s before they changed it to a continuation school. Up until that point, it went to grade eight before students had to go to Lindsay for high school."

McInerney left the area in the 70s and when she came back, she worked odd jobs, including one for the *Minden Times*.

see MOLLY page 2

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ROMA gives voice to rural communities

by **JAMES MATTHEWS***Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Municipalities navigate many more difficult issues today than they had in the past.

Pam Sayne, who is a representative on the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, said another hiccup with which municipal officials have to contend is a polarization in communities wrought from social media commenters.

Sayne, who is a Minden Hills township councillor, brought some highlights of ROMA's work to Haliburton County council's May 22 meeting.

Municipalities have had much work over the last four years to address homelessness, mental health issues in communities, aging, and a lot of federal and provincial concerns have been kicked down to the municipal level.

"We have a lot of challenges that are new

to us," she said.

That new prominence of community polarization was recently addressed at a ROMA conference. It's a shared concern among many municipalities under the association's umbrella.

"What's so important to ROMA's work is dialogue," she said. "We can agree or disagree, but we need to continue the dialogue. And that is so fundamental to our democracy here, within our communities, and within our country as large as we are."

The association has evolved quite a bit over the years, she said, with a guiding strategic plan developed through community consultation and representation.

"We are a board of action," Sayne said.

That action is seen in the association's response to growing rural demands for broadband internet, affordable housing, and working to improve access to services in the current health care crisis.

ROMA kept the wheels turning during

the COVID-19 lockdown by way of on-line meetings that enabled representatives to maintain connection with other rural municipalities.

"That encouraged people to keep communications going and keep in touch with what was happening with other municipalities," Sayne said. "It was a time we all managed to get through."

"It left us with a brave new world of (information technology) and how we communicate and where we get our information from."

She said the group continues the work of getting their voice heard. Employing every avenue to get the association's voice heard ensures it doesn't become a tree that falls silently in the forest.

"I think it's still important sometimes just to acknowledge and say that each of us has likely noticed that our opinions and ideas are always taken more seriously when we're elected," she said.

"Sometimes nobody cares what we think until we're elected. Then, all of a sudden, it becomes an important issue."

Councillor Bob Carter, who is the mayor of Minden Hills, said ROMA's work gives rural centres a reach to obtain some of the resources such as housing funding that would typically go to the larger urban centres.

"The amount of money that's coming from the senior levels of government into the rural areas is way less than we need and way less than, in all fairness, we should be getting," Carter said.

"Many of our costs are higher because we don't have the water and sewer and infrastructure that we would have in cities or around cities. I think ROMA plays an extremely important role and we need to do all we can to continue to support it to make sure our voice is heard."

Strategy needed to counter poverty, says region's top doc

by **JAMES MATTHEWS***Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Food insecurity is a public health issue.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, the medical officer of health at the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, said food insecurity is defined as not having enough money to buy food.

But living in a food insecure household increases risks to people's mental health, infections, and chronic diseases. And that's a public health issue, she said.

"Food banks and charities are not a solution to this issue," Bocking said. "They help to mitigate the challenges, the problems for families impacted by it, but they're not the solution."

As many as 12.9 per cent of households in Haliburton County, 10.2 per cent of households in Kawartha Lakes, and 8.7 per cent of households in Northumberland County are considered low income and struggled to pay for rent, bills, and healthy food.

In the HKPR district area, 39.8 per cent of tenant-households spent more than 30 per cent of their income on housing.

Food costs and housing costs have increased and, despite some modest increases to some social programs, there's been little respite.

What's needed are systemic and income-related strategies that are long-term poverty reduction measures, she said. That includes adequate incomes to ensure at least a sufficient minimum standard of living, improved employment standards, increased social assistance rates, and providing a basic income guarantee.

It's a persistent problem.

"The food insecurity rate really has not changed since last year," Bocking said.

To that end, the health unit released its 2023 Nutritious Food Basket Report entitled Addressing Food Insecurity and Poverty in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District area.

The report highlights the struggles faced by low-income families in Haliburton County, Kawartha Lakes, and Northumberland County to pay for such necessities as housing and food. Incomes and social assistance

“

We need income-based solutions that are long term and that focus on poverty reduction

— **SARA TSANG, REGISTERED DIETITIAN**

”

rates are not keeping up with rising costs.

Within the Nutritious Food Basket Report, public health officials compared the incomes and expenses of several household scenarios to show how much money would be left over for families and individuals after paying for housing and food.

In some scenarios, those expenses alone exceed income, leaving not enough money to pay for other basic needs like utilities, phone, internet, and medications.

"When families don't make enough money to buy food, they are food insecure," said Sarah Tsang, a registered dietitian and health equity coordinator. "These families are forced to make hard decisions like if they will buy healthy foods or pay for other basics like rent and utilities."

Public health officials estimate a family of four would have spent on average \$1,184 per month towards eating healthy in 2023. That means, if the family earns minimum wage, they would have spent 28 per cent of their income on food that meets Canada's Food Guide.

After paying for rent, that would leave them with merely a few hundred dollars to pay for other basic living expenses.

"Food insecurity is a serious social and public health problem," Tsang said. "In order to address food insecurity, we need income-based solutions that are long term and that focus on poverty reduction such as adequate incomes, improving employment standards, increasing social assistance rates, and providing basic income guarantee."

Molly hopes someone else gets the bug

from page 1

"This became available and it was a bakery when we bought it and we converted it into a restaurant and a bakery."

"Times have changed sadly. Everyone is having the same trouble with staffing and I couldn't do it," said McInerney. "This was what I was doing during COVID-19 as well, so I just expanded on that. I had to make the decision to make a move," said McInerney.

"We have carry-out cuisine and we do lunches as well. Stuff like sandwiches and salads and soup and savoury ham pies and then a selection of baked goods as well."

McInerney has expanded the frozen food options to include chicken parmesan, pizza, wings, macaroni, potatoes, rice, and veggies.

"I will change it up as well with other things," said McInerney. "On the bakery side we have increased it with cupcakes and we're selling bread now. Different items like danishes and croissants." "I see an idea and go ooo, I could do that."

"Meat pies have traditionally been our biggest seller. Lately, with the new expansion, pizza has been flying out as well. But our meat pies have always been our mainstay. I have also gone to smaller portions so seniors

don't have to eat them all week long. They can eat it for one meal or a meal for two. The portions are smaller than they used to be."

"It adds more flexibility," said McInerney. "It's still work, but it's not crazy work. I'm still here everyday and we're still making things everyday but for a different purpose. Instead of me making things for you, you are taking it home and cooking it yourself."

Last week, McInerney added cheesecake bites to the wide range of items for sale. "I saw the idea and thought I could do that," said McInerney.

"I got the bug and I'm hoping somebody else will get the bug," said Molly with a laugh.

"People have always enjoyed our cooking here. Everything is from scratch and we try our best to make it as tasty as possible. It's not processed food. We don't add additives and palm oil and stuff like that. If you make it at home, I make it the same way. Except I make it better."

"You want to buy a restaurant?" asked Molly. "All the tables are in the shed, they're ready to move back in here."

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The Times
MINDEN ONTARIO



Eat your heart out, Kafka

The Highlands Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Dan Manley, receives a standing ovation following their spring concert, *Metamorphosis*, on Saturday, May 25 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. The captivating show included themes from *Star Wars* and *ET* composed by John Williams as well as The Who's hit, *Pinball Wizard*, and music by George Gershwin, Edward Elgar, and Igor Stravinsky. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



OCNA winners announced

The OCNA award winners have been announced, and we're pleased to say the *Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times* staff have won several awards.

The *Haliburton Echo* has won third place in general excellence class 1. The general excellence category reflects all parts of the paper with points awarded for ad design, classifieds, editorial content, columnists, sports section, front page design, photography, community news, etc.

In the Premier Awards category, Emily

Stonehouse *Minden Times* won third place for Best Editorial in their circulation category and received an honourable mention for the Heritage category. Steve Galea won second place for columnist of the year for *Haliburton Echo* with an honourable mention to Jim Poling from the *Minden Times*. Adam Frisk won first place for best feature photo with the *Minden Times*.

Congratulations to all!

Staff

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- The Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place are now open to the public Tuesday to Saturday from 10 AM – 4 PM. Admission is by donation. For more information: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.
- Connection and Response, an exhibit by conceptual artist Bruce Cull, will be on display until June 8 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, 176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden. Open Tuesday – Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM. Admission is by donation. For more info: <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-04-04-1000-Connection-and-Response-An-Exhibit-by-Bruce-Cull>
- The Knitting Village provides free knitting lessons for children ages 11-14. The next classes take place on June 4, 11 and 18 from 3:30-4:30 pm at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. All materials are supplied. For more information: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.
- Join us for the final PA Day Movie of the school year! We will be presenting *Minions* (2015) at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Friday, June 7 at 1:00 PM. This is a free family friendly movie event co-hosted by the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and the Haliburton County Public Library. Snacks will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own.

WATCH FOR WORKERS

Construction season is here. Keeping a work site safe includes everyone. Slow down and watch for workers when approaching road work sites.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL, IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- **June 13** – Regular Council Meeting
- **June 27** – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at <https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>. Visit our website for more information.

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NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, June 13, 2024, during its Regular Council Meeting regarding proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law to the schedules noted below:

- Schedule A Classes of Permits and Fees for Building
- Schedule G Cemetery
- Schedule H Community Services Programs & Facilities
- Schedule L Local Community Insurance Services
- Schedule F Planning Department Fees

The proposed changes to the noted schedules will be posted on the Township website www.mindenhills.ca. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

Dated this 10th day of May, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Vicki Bull, Clerk, 705-286-1260 Ext 515 E: vbull@mindenhills.ca

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We are currently seeking energetic and highly motivated individuals for the following positions:

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Please visit our website www.mindenhills.ca/careers/ for a complete list of available positions and how to apply.

NO DAYTIME BURNING

No daytime burning from April 1st to October 31st in any year as it is considered fire season. Fire restrictions are from 7:00 AM till 7:00 PM (daytime burning). No person shall start a fire outdoors during the restricted time in fire season.



SUMMER CAMP AND PRE-REGISTERED PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Summer Camp Registration opens June 11th, 2024, at 9:00am in person and online.

Pre-Registered program registration opens June 18th, 2024, at 9:00am in person and online.



Home and Cottage show featured artist: David Alexander Risk

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

“When you have a gift, its purpose is to be given back to others,” said David Alexander Risk when asked about his career of art-making and generosity.

The world-renowned Canadian artist has secured countless impressive accomplishments over the span of his career, including presenting his pieces to former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and American entertainer Bob Hope.

One was even presented to the Royal Family and now hangs in Buckingham Palace.

But, his greatest accomplishment, he said, is being a steward of the natural world and inspiring young artists to do the same.

Born to be wild

From the very beginning, Risk said he was born with a love of nature and the desire to have a paint brush in hand.

“My mom and dad always joked that when I was in my crib as a toddler, I ended up getting my hands on some crayons and started doodling on the wall,” he laughed. “They told me that I got this technique where I bounced and was able to move the crib, and I eventually drew on the whole wall. They kept that on the wall for like 17 years.”

Risk said he didn’t thrive in the classroom setting because he was constantly captivated by nature.

“I was always looking out the window, running to the creek



David Alexander Risk will be the 2024 Haliburton Home and Cottage Show’s special guest. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

at the back of the school and catching chub.”

He’d fashion a fishing rod out of shoelaces, sticks, and safety pins to catch fish.

“I was always in the detention room,” he chuckled.

Nature and art was always his escape.

“I’d come back into the school with frogs, bird nests, snakes in my pockets. I don’t know how many times my parents were called to the school,” Risk said. “I always passed my classes, but I always wanted to be out in the bush.”

It was a similar story back at home.

“Mom and dad used to say I would disappear at the back of our farm where there were red tailed hawk nests. I’d climb the trees, made a tree platform, and would just sit there and watch and sketch them.”

He also found a coyote den, and spent many hours observing the comings and goings of the den.

The coyote pups were left without parents, so he ended up bringing one home and raised it.

“My bedroom was always filled with aquariums, and I would sketch everything in them.”

Risk came by his creativity honestly thanks to his parents.

“Dad was a great musician. He played almost every instrument from the grand piano, to harmonicas during the Second World War for the troops.”

His mother sailed to Canada from England on the RMS Queen Mary at age 17.

“She used to do window dressing at fashion stores in London. She had an artistic flair because she loved doing that.”

When she got to Canada, she did that for the iconic downtown Toronto Eaton’s store.

One of his public school teachers supported the arts, too, and encouraged him to pursue them.

“She noticed that I loved to sit there and doodle. She gave me a 20 foot section of the wall in the classroom, and by the end of the year, it was covered with artwork.”

Risk grew up in Markham, but his family owned three farms further north.

After receiving top marks in all art classes, he graduated high school and traveled to England and across Canada.

“I then ended up back home. My sister brought home one of her beautiful friends one day. She became my lovely wife.”

Sharon and David Alexander moved up to Lochlin, a small hamlet in the Highlands, and never looked back.

They now own a farm in Highlands East, and raised their three now-grown children in the Highlands.

“Without the support of my wife Sharon, and without the support of my mom believing in us, I wouldn’t be where I am,” Risk said.

Risk said he raised show pigeons as a kid.

“We now raise Jacobins and Norwich Croppers, and I have over 100 racing pigeons.”

They also keep white doves, a symbol of peace and an ode to his father who served in the Second World War and his grandfather who was a veteran of both the First and Second World Wars.

A career of generosity

David Alexander and Sharon opened many of their own galleries over the years.

“We entered lots of art shows, and came home with best of show prizes for a number of them,” Risk said.

Quickly discovering his techniques could be shared with others, he began to teach art classes.

“One door after another just kept opening for us.”

He’s held a gallery space in both Algonquin Park and the Haliburton Forest Wolf Centre in the past, teaching generations of children how to paint by seeing.

“We put on free art classes for kids. Kids are the next generation, so we always want to encourage kids to appreciate nature and be creative.”

He donated prints of his famous painting of a pair of loons, *Miracle in the Making*, to PolioPlus and the Toronto Don Valley Rotary Club in an effort to raise funds to immunize 3,000,000 children against polio.

The painting itself was presented to Queen Elizabeth when she traveled to Canada for the 1988 Winter Olympics, and the high-realism watercolour still hangs in Buckingham Palace.

This would be just one of many generous donations of his work for not-for-profit organizations.

“I’ve always seen art as a vehicle to raise funds for worthy causes. We’ve donated to places like Ducks Unlimited, nature organizations, Sick Kids Hospitals, the PolioPlus program, and children’s camps.”

He credited the printers of his work, as well.

“They’re working on expensive presses with expensive paper and inks. They’ve always been eager to donate their time and resources. They’re artists in themselves,” Risk said.

The nature lover continues to get outside everyday, and creates art in five different styles under five brush names.

“They go from photo-realism, to abstracts. Whenever I found a style I liked, I would sit down, practice, and go from there.”

Home and Cottage Show

For the first time in 18 years, Risk will be at this year’s Haliburton Home and Cottage Show.

“We always try to come up with different themes for all shows.”

With a 30 foot booth, the far end will showcase his collection of vintage canoes.

“Then there will be a lot of the natural world paintings, so studies of birds and other animals. Then I’ll have my plein air paintings on display, and then some Fauve art.”

Risk has been tirelessly working day into night preparing.

“I’ll be painting a very special painting while I’m there, so you’ll want to come check it out,” he said.

The Home and Cottage Show runs from Friday, May 31 to Sunday, June 2.

“We always wanted to give back skills and artwork to enrich the community,” Risk said. “I always believe that everything you give always comes back, tenfold.”

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Doctor recruitment needs changes, council hears

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County needs to sweeten its physician recruitment offer if it's going to turn doctors' heads from other places in Ontario.

Scott Ovell, the county's 'economic development and tourism director, said the county's guidelines are rigid when it comes to stacking funding to lure a doctors and specifying minimum years of service for prospective physicians.

"Anytime we're getting questions in that space, it just requires us to come back to council," Ovell said. "You've been very supportive of any requests we've made."

"What we're looking for really, particularly related just to the ability to stack funding. Perhaps (offering) \$50,000 in one year and subsequently \$25,000 in another. And then the return to service agreement."

Those are the requests recruitment staff has received most often from prospective doctors, he said.

Ovell said those two changes in the Haliburton Doctor Recruitment Guidelines county staff would have the flexibility to make decisions and be responsive to doctors in that space.

Haliburton County started in 2012 its Physician Recruitment Incentive Program for medical students, medical graduates, and physicians.

An individual could receive \$25,000 annually for up to six years if they committed to practicing in Haliburton County. There is a minimum four-year commitment. Since its inception, the program has provided

\$725,000 to eight physicians who have committed to practicing in the county as of the end of last year.

At the same time in 2017, County of Haliburton Doctor Recruitment Guidelines were established. To the best of staff's knowledge, these guidelines have not been revisited since they were put in place.

Physician recruitment is a highly competitive environment throughout Ontario. According to a report to council, the county provides both a solid incentive program and an attractive environment to draw doctors. But, since 2012, communities across Ontario have continued to evolve their incentive programs to meet the changing demands of physician recruitment.

As such, to ensure continued competitiveness, it is necessary for the county to review and modify its recruitment program to allow staff to be responsive when managing inquiries and recruitment activities.

"I think it's quite obvious that we need some more flexibility with respect to our incentive program," said Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands. "It's been in place for quite some time and it's so competitive."

"I'm sure that we really do need to do something."

She said she welcomes updates to the guidelines.

The current recruitment guidelines do not permit staff the flexibility or authority to address the aforementioned situations without first coming to council to request either changes to the guidelines or to modify them on a case-by-case basis.

To better compete with other jurisdictions, it's recommended the county change its re-

turn of service minimum requirement from four to two years.

The economic development director should be granted authority over incentives to doctors. Given that county council meets every two weeks, Ovell said authority doesn't necessarily need to be delegated to the director.

Funding should be permitted to be paid out in different amounts per year. And council needs to be updated by the physician recruitment coordinator on a quarterly basis about recruitment efforts.

Four doctors are currently accessing the

county's incentive program. And the physician recruitment reserve has a balance of \$185,906.

"It's always difficult to pay for things before you get them," said Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills. "Somewhere in here it says that they're (incentives) are paid out Jan. 15, so you're sort of paying for the year ahead of time."

If that's what it takes to attract physicians, that's what the county needs to do, he said.

"It's the world we live in so there's not much we can do," Carter said.



Woah, a Minden rainbow!

A rainbow was spotted above Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. /Submitted by Guenter Horst



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CT scanner cannot come soon enough

On Monday, my Dad woke up feeling off. There was a heaviness to his chest and something felt different to his breathing. He figured that his allergies were acting up, or perhaps he had caught a cold.

Neither were correct.

After I got home from work on Wednesday last week, something seemed different to him. Something that was not simply allergies or a cold. When I spoke with him, there was a tone of fear in his voice, some confusion, or perhaps frustration that one experiences with an aging body. Later that evening, my father could not lift his head up without feeling ill and dizzy. He could not lift either hand above his head. After pleading from my Aunt and Mother, he decided to drive with my Mom to the Haliburton ER.

After arriving at the Haliburton Hospital, his health began to decline. The doctor in Haliburton was wonderful to my parents. After listing a mile-long list of potential causes of my father's ailments including stroke, heat exhaustion, and blood clots, the doctor said my father needed to get CT scans done. Due to the lack of a CT scanner in Haliburton County, my father needed to be urgently transported to Peterborough Regional Health Centre. I was under the impression that heat exhaustion was the leading theory as he had been working in a stifling garage with the door closed to block black flies and mosquitoes from biting him.

My father says that he remembers what each bump felt like in the back of that ambulance. It threw him around so much and caused such discomfort, the paramedics pulled over to safely give him nitroglycerin and other medications in an attempt to stabilize him.

"We must be near Emily Park," he asked the paramedic.

"Yes actually, we just passed the sign," said the paramedic, letting out a small chuckle.

My father's health was declining on route to Peterborough. He was given two options. The first was that they could turn around and bring him back to Haliburton. They would not be able to do the CT scan, but he would be more comfortable and could likely stabilize him. The other option was to continue traveling on this perilous journey, but endure the potholes and jostling in the back of the ambulance.

Screw that, he thought. Returning would include running over the same potholes he had already endured.

At 1:30 a.m. I was awoken to a phone call. My heart dropped into my stomach and I feared the worst.

Three blood clots were found in his lungs. One in the left, two in the right.

When my father went to the hospital in Haliburton, I was playing video games with friends. My parents didn't want to interrupt me so I learned they had left over text.

I could not remember the last thing I said to my father. That haunted me for eight ever-stretching hours before I heard his voice again.

Luckily, the clots were caught in time before they could do serious permanent damage (that we know of). He is back home now.

If Haliburton ER had a CT scanner, he likely would not have had to travel to Peterborough by ambulance. He would not have had to endure getting thrown around in the back and then offered the choice to continue or turn around.

The CT scanner cannot come soon enough. The 100 kilometers between Haliburton and Peterborough could mean life or death to yourself or a loved one.

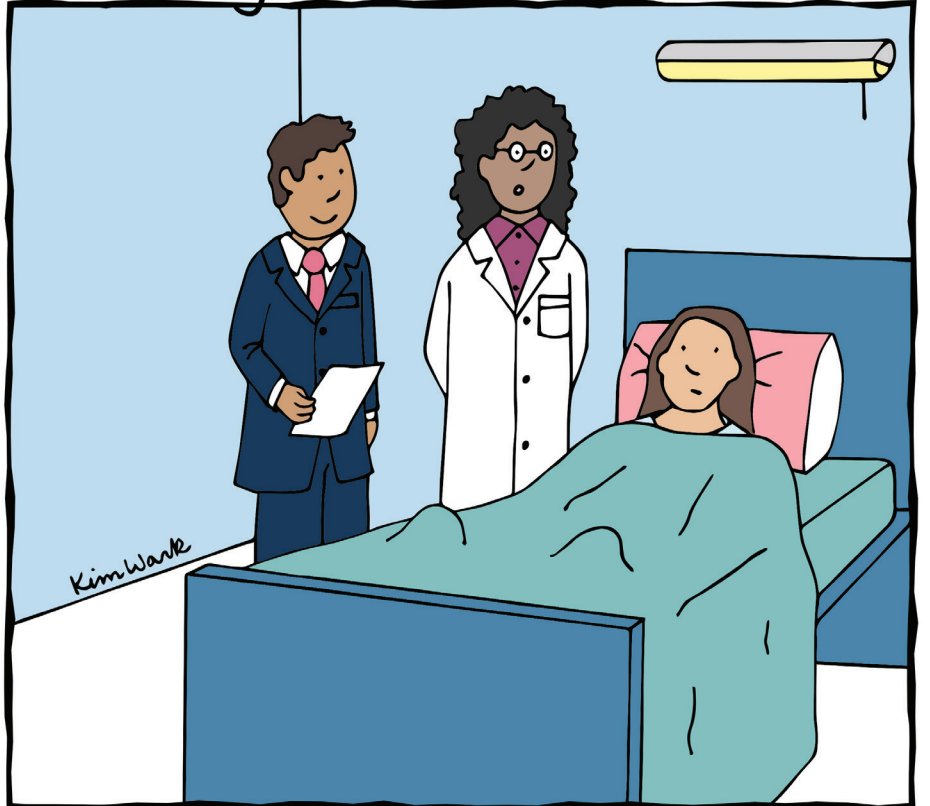
How many people must we lose before our health system is changed? Before our hospitals in Haliburton County can treat everyone appropriately and actually have the staff on hand?

Whose loved one must die before we see change?



THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Kwarky



"Would you like a basic or extended warranty for your new hip?"

Little fish: where skill really counts

WHEN IT Comes to fishing, I think we have pretty well exhausted the wonder and joy of catching a big fish. All you need to do is peruse social media for a while to see that everyone is doing it. As a result, it is no longer the special achievement it once was.

This leaves an angler to wonder where the next great fishing frontier lies. To answer that question, I would like to direct you to the social media accounts of me and the fellows I fish with. If you do that, you will soon realize that you are looking at a group of angling pioneers, proudly going where no angler has willingly gone before – which is perfecting the art of catching tiny fish.

Not to brag, but if you looked at some of my social media posts, you might ask yourself why is he standing there on a boat, smiling, and holding a tiny fishing lure towards the camera? Look closely, however, and you will soon realize that I am not holding a tiny lure at all. In fact, it is a fish.

I understand that the initial reaction of the non-angler or normal angler is to laugh. But the truth is it takes skill and keen eyes to target fish that small.

First of all, I think we can all concede that to get a fly or lure near a tiny fish's mouth takes much greater casting accuracy. A muskie with an eight-inch wide maw is child's play comparatively.

Next, you really need to pay attention to feel the bite. Not to brag, but a couple of my best fish were so small that they

couldn't even pull down a tiny bobber.

Lastly, there is the hook set. If you are not careful with a small fish and use a bass angler hookset, you will pull them out of the water and throw them off the hook 100 or so yards behind you. We call this cast and release.

The point is you really need to practice to become a truly proficient angler of micro-sized fish.

To be honest, when you are as good at it as me, it can be a little embarrassing.

Take, for example, the other day at the town dock.

I didn't mean to showboat but, by the time I was finished, I had caught six sunfish and 1 crappie that were so small that I could have fit them in a live well made from a coffee cup. They were so diminutive that none of the other anglers even noticed I landed them in my aquarium net.

Aside from bragging rights, there are all sorts of advantages of catching these small fish, not the least of which is taxidermy costs. Also, unless your spouse is eagle-eyed, he or she will likely never notice when you hang a really good specimen in the den.

The point being, this is a new angling frontier that no one has tackled before. This is going to be great for the industry too. Just think of all the new ultra-light rods and tiny lures they will be able to market. And the camera industry is going to make a bundle selling macro lenses.

If this catches on, someone will probably open a small fish hall of fame. I suspect it will be the size of a garden shed ...



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

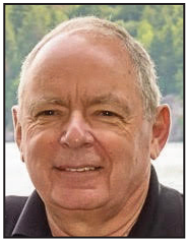
Columns and Letters to the Editor

Bad books and good books

I thought it was just me complaining that more and more mediocre – or just plain bad – books are being published.

A search of the Internet tells me I am not alone. Reading and writing sites are filled with complaints from writers and readers about books that just aren't worth reading.

Good books are great teaching tools that help us learn about life from real characters living in well-crafted stories. Bad books are simply clumps of words tossed together without enough thought.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

The problem seems to be that publishers have become more interested in sales than good literature. They now rely on marketing hype and gimmicks to promote their new titles.

Over the past couple of months I have borrowed three books from libraries. I returned all three before reaching Page 100. They were just not worth reading through to the end.

Two others, novels that I bought, were nearly as disappointing. *Disappearance at Devil's Rock* (2016) is a weird story about a teenage boy who disappears at a landmark known to teens as Devil's Rock.

It received the 2017 British Fantasy Award for best horror novel. Why, I don't know. It's grossly overwritten, too long and I can't recall a single scene from it, let alone a horror scene.

As some other reviewers have said of other novels: "This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly. It should be thrown with great force."

The other disappointing novel was *Birnam Wood*, another prize winner much acclaimed by readers, booksellers and reviewers. It isn't badly written but meanders and I have no idea of exactly what happened at the end.

Many loved it as their favourite book of 2023. I guess I'm just out of touch.

I favor the old classics that are like listening to a powerful storyteller quietly telling a tale that you never forget. One of the greatest of these is Hemingway's *Old Man and the Sea*, which is thoughtfully written in telling how perseverance and dignity help one stand up against life's struggles.

Another is *A Passage to India*, a compelling novel that shows the fate of friendships caught in the modern world's cultural and political conflicts.

One reason for the growing number of poorly crafted books is self-publishing. There were 2.3 million books self-published in the U.S. during 2021. That's roughly two to three times the estimated 500,000 to one million new books published through traditional publishers.

Authors, especially new authors, are lured by self-publishing because they do exactly what they want to do with their book. But most lack any professional editing, which is critical to determining if a book will be good, mediocre or just plain bad.

Self-publishing is cutting into the revenues of traditional publishers. As they see their revenues drop they publish more light-weight books they figure they can sell with gimmicky marketing. Revenues become more important than literary art.

The Association of American Publishers reported this spring that book industry revenue declined 2.6 per cent in 2022, down three-quarters of a billion dollars from 2021. The 2022 figure, however, was 8.6 per cent higher than the \$25.87 billion recorded in 2019.

People are different with varying likes and dislikes so there will always be a market for stories that are poorly put together and poorly written. The positive in all of this is that people are reading books, although less than in the past.

A fairly recent Gallup poll shows that American adults are reading two or three fewer books per year than they did between 2001 and 2016.

The good news is that our kids are reading. The 2022 Canadian Book Consumer Study found that 27 per cent of books bought by Canadians were juvenile or young adult titles. And, the 2022 Canadian Book Market annual report said that 41 per cent of book sales and 52 per cent of library loans in 2022 were juvenile and young adult titles.

That's especially thankful news because reading helps children build language skills. It allows them to learn about the world and things they will be exposed to in their future.

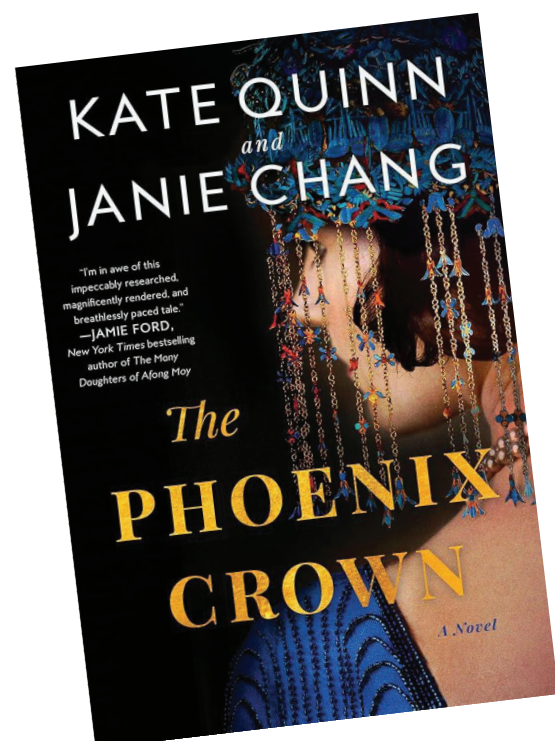
Psychologists say reading is important to early brain development. They also say that parental reading to children gives them a head start in life.

Minden Memories



These guest hunters proudly show off their ruffed grouse at the Silverwood Lodge on the south shore of Canning Lake in the 1950s. On the left is Len Wilson of Wilson Beverages while the man on the right is W.K. Buckley, of the Buckley's Mixture cough syrup fame. /Submitted

HCPL's Book of the Week



1906. In a city bustling with newly minted millionaires and scheming upstarts, two very different women hope to change their fortunes: Gemma, a golden-haired, soprano whose career desperately needs rekindling, and Suling, a resolute Chinatown embroideress who is determined to escape an arranged marriage. Their paths cross when they are drawn into the orbit of a charming railroad magnate whose extraordinary collection of Chinese antiques includes the fabled Phoenix Crown.

What happens next is a thrilling and unforgettable story about the intertwined lives of two wronged women, spanning from the chaos of the San Francisco earthquake to the glittering palaces of Versailles.

The Phoenix Crown by Kate Quinn and Janie Chang is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.



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Technology in the wild

SOMETHING WE tend to do as a society is place technology in opposition to nature. Sentiments like being on our phones less and outside more can be levelled with a certain smug satisfaction. Rosy notions of forest bathing that yield Instagrammable human silhouettes against towering trees are often juxtaposed against the blue glow of a computer screen and sitting ourselves to death. In our modern times, when putting food on the table often entails long hours interacting with computers and smartphones, we look to nature as a romantic ideal to be yearned for. Yes, getting outside in the natural world can have a great deal of benefit to our wellbeing, but the mindful use of technology can help us engage with nature rather than separate us from it.

In the Haliburton Highlands, we are lucky to have easy access to the outdoors. Even the more urbanized areas of our landscape yield plant and animal life that can be readily explored from public greenspaces. More rugged areas can still be accessed via public nature preserves such as Dahl Forest, one of the many hiking or walking trails in the area, or via the plethora of rivers and lakes in the region. However, being outdoors takes a fair amount of planning, especially for the weather. What the weather may be in a particular area informs everything from what to wear, how often we might need to reapply sunscreen, how bad the mosquitos or blackflies might be, and what time of day we want to be active outside.

Weather apps can show us forecasts down to the hour and provide us with radar imagery so that we can see oncoming storms. Advances in radar and satellite technology have made forecasts more accurate so that it's easier for us to plan our time outside, as well as respond quickly if severe weather approaches. Some parks, including Algonquin Provincial Park, have live webcams so you can get a sense of current conditions at the site you want to go to. There are a number of weather apps available for our various devices, but my preference is WeatherCAN which is from Environment and Climate Change Canada. I like that it has been created by a public entity, is free, and doesn't have ads – and most other privately owned meteorological services are using Environment Canada's data anyway.

When I'm exploring outside, I like to learn more about and keep track of the plants and animals that I see. Identification apps such as Seek by iNaturalist help you identify flora and fauna using your phone's camera and a database of thousands of citizen scientist observations. You can use Seek just on its own without sharing any personal data, or you can use it to share your observations with the iNaturalist community by setting up an account with them. When using an identification app there are some important safety rules to follow: never use the app for food foraging purposes (an app is no substitute for proper foraging education from an expert), and never use the app in a way that might endanger or harass wildlife.



**ERIN
KEROHAN-BERNING**
Humans and Technology

Birding is another fun activity to do outside. While the dog-eared bird book is still a trusted tool, bird apps can also be useful in looking up and identifying various birds. Merlin, an app by Cornell University, is fantastic for recording and identifying bird sounds when you can't see them. Again, mindful use is key – playing bird sounds loudly from these apps can disturb the very birds you are trying to share the space with, so save that part of your observations for when you are wearing your headphones. Whether an app or a printed field guide, be sure what you're using has been created by a reputable source.

When in the great outdoors it's always best to keep a respectful distance from animals for your safety and for their wellbeing. Online webcams can be a great way to view wildlife much closer than we could normally. The Audubon Society and Cornell University both have a variety of webcams trained on bird nests and feeders, and the Northeast Florida Eagle Cam is trained on a bald eagle nest where, if things go right, you can watch the circle of life from egg to fledgling. Social media accounts run by various parks and wildlife services share pictures and video to educate the public about wildlife and how to do our part to protect it.

So, grab your phone, check the weather, and head outside to do some exploring. Just don't forget to put your phone in your pocket every once and awhile to soak up the world uninterrupted... until the mosquitos find you.

Do you have empty plant pots you want to get rid of?

Don't just throw them away or put them in the recycling – they can be re-used!

Just drop them off in the parking lot of Lucas House in Haliburton Village – close to where the big, old tank was! The address is 123 Maple Avenue. You can leave them next to the green "cage"!

The plants will be re-used by local native plant growers, and you'll be doing your bit to help the environment.

The pots should be in good shape. The most useable kind are the four-inch ones you normally buy plants in.

This is an initiative of Haliburton-based ecological landscaping company, Grounded,

and native plant grower, Haliburton Micromeadows.

For more information, email Simon at hello@groundedgardens.ca.

Submitted

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County slams the brakes on proposed transit service

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The possible financial hit Haliburton County could take for transit between Minden Hills and Haliburton came as a disappointment to some councillors.

The proposed service was much higher than what the county has set aside. Staff recommended the transit project be shelved until solutions can be found.

Councillor Bob Carter, Minden Hills' mayor, said when council met May 22 that he couldn't begin to put into words his disappointment at the outcome of a request for proposals (RFP) for the service.

Carter said he realized there likely wasn't universal acceptance from all of council that the transit service would suit everyone because it would only run between Minden Hills and Haliburton.

"However, you can't build a house without a foundation," Carter said. "You needed a spine to get it started and, hopefully once this was started, then it could spread out into Highlands East and Algonquin Highlands and so on.

"This is one of the things that municipalities do. Transit."

He said the transit idea had been kicked around the county council table for years with nothing constructive done about it.

The upper tier council asked in September 2023 that an RFP be issued for a pilot two-year bus transportation shuttle service between the townships.

In December 2023, county staff outlined the possible scope for the proposed service. Council supported a fixed transit route between the two communities.

The tender, which closed on April 12, drew one qualified response from the BTS Network.

The proposed service's annual cost would be \$685,344 with an additional start-up cost of \$45,000. The proponent is also requesting that fuel be supplied by the county.

The county currently has \$182,601.52 in a Transit Reserve to support the implementation of a transit service.

Carter said that his September 2023 motion was for the county to devise "a bare bones starting point" from which a transit operation could grow.

"The idea and previous attempts often was this idealistic thought that we would be able to create everything for everybody," Carter said.

Rather, his starting point was to be a beginner's model from which the service could bloom.

"I'm disappointed that this was what was put forward," he said. "This was way more than the original concept and that's part of the reason for the cost. It also doesn't look at what the potential is in terms of ridership."

Some revenue would have been generated as it wasn't intended to be a free service, he said.

The respondent, BTS Network, outlined a fixed route service with two vehicles operating in opposing directions of each other from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. seven days a week except holidays. The proposed route had six stops in each community.

In a report written for council, Scott Ovell, the county's economic development and tourism director, said the proposal included multiple vehicle options and staff identified an eight-passenger van that had wheelchair access as the preferred option.

Alternative transit options included a fixed route transit service with stops in each community that could be booked online. Another alternative was a fully on-demand service that operated within the urban boundaries of each community.

Some Ontario municipalities have requested the provincial government take steps toward a consistent regulatory framework around ride-share services like Uber and Lyft that could maybe expand those services to rural Ontario.

Such services could possibly provide a more cost-effective transportation option.

But Carter cautioned that such services in a rural setting wouldn't fit the needs of somebody with a set doctor's appointment or those who have to go to a job. Transit with a set schedule would best serve them.

"Every day I hear about people who have difficulties with transportation," Carter said. "The idea of our taxis, the idea of these ride-share programs, they're terrific in the city."

He suggested the county form a committee to investigate ways to make a transit service happen.

"In my life if I've (been) faced with problems that I can't solve it's because I haven't worked hard enough to try to solve it," he said. "And there's a way to do it."

Gary Dyke, the county's CAO, said he wasn't surprised by the proposed price tag for the transit service. He said Carter's suggested committee would be productive, but he said the ride-share option shouldn't be dismissed outright.

"Other small rural municipalities have invested in the ride-share program to great effect," Dyke said.

The single bus concept simply doesn't work, he said. But it might work with some thought into it. Regardless, any transit has issues around accessibility that needs to be addressed.

Dyke said there's an opportunity for the county to continue forward toward a service.

"I think it is worthwhile doing it, it's just what methodology we're going to use going forward," he said.

"The idea was to create the starter kit to get something going," Carter said. "We may not be able to afford everything that we would like, but if we can get it started it will grow."

Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands, said much work has been done in the past toward establishing some sort of transit. But, given the county's geography, costs had been prohibitive.

"To my mind, at this point in time, in excess of \$700,000 and I would say \$700,000 that we don't have to service two of the four municipalities in the county is not appropriate," she said.

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OPP responds to injury from explosive device

The Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a residence in Algonquin Highlands after receiving a report of a serious injury caused by explosive material.

On May 24, at approximately 5:04 p.m., police were called to assist Fire and EMS at a residence on Comak Crescent after an individual received an injury from a homemade explosive device. The individual was taken to the hospital for serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

As the investigation continued, neighbours were evacu-

ated and the OPP Explosive Disposal Unit (EDU) attended, recovering and securing additional explosive substances and devices from the residence.

There are no explosive substances or devices remaining at the location that would pose a threat to public safety.

As a result of investigation, a 36-year-old from Mississauga, has been arrested and charged with:

- Explosives – Making or possessing for an unlawful purpose
- Adult Breach of Recognizance

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to call Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or you may submit your tips anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

The OPP takes all threats to public safety seriously and provides resources necessary to assess and respond to the threat. If you have information about a possible explosive device, call 9-1-1 and provide as much information to police as possible about the threat.

Submitted

Teeny Tiny Summit to focus on small community development

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

Rural communities thrive when each sector collaborates and comes together to find solutions.

That’s why the Teeny Tiny Summit is coming to the county next week.

“I think it’s going to be a really great day to showcase

Minden, the county, and some of the great things that are happening,” said Angelica Ingram, tourism manager for the County of Haliburton. “This event is for anybody. It’s for anybody interested in seeing the County of Haliburton grow and thrive.”

The theme of Haliburton County’s summit is Creating Community Wealth and Well-Being.

“We want attendees to feel really inspired. There’s a lot of great things happening here. I think sometimes we take that for granted,” Ingram said.

Teeny Tiny Summits were started in 2016 by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to discuss economic development in small communities.

“Since we don’t have the same resources and funding that larger scale communities do, they thought of hosting a one-day conference to have small communities show each other strategies and what works best for them,” she said.

The model is successful because it brings together people from different organizations and professions to find the best solutions and connect with each other.

“When you’re face to face with other people and can ask questions, a lot of good networking and conversation can happen at these events,” Ingram said. “If you’re involved in a private enterprise, we want you to come out. If you’re in-

involved in a not-for-profit, we want you to come. If you’re a politician or work for the government, we want you to come.”

This year will be Haliburton County’s first Teeny Tiny Summit.

OMAFRA has Peter Kenyon, a rural development expert, attending as a keynote speaker presenting “Bank of IDEAS”.

“He’s going to be delivering an excellent presentation about what builds great communities,” Ingram said.

There will be booths at the summit for other community organizations to have a presence and share what they do.

Places for People will be speaking about their Community Bonds Program and Point in Time will speak about the Youth Wellness Hub.

“The summit will be focusing on some well-being examples and some really great not-for-profit organizations in our community.”

There’s a \$5 fee to register, and a delicious lunch will be catered by Molly’s Market Bakery.

Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/teeny-tiny-summit-tickets-890964858877?aff=oddtcreator to sign up.

“The nice thing about the Teeny Tiny Summit is that it’s about all of those people working together. Our community can’t thrive unless we’re all collaborating,” Ingram said. “I’m so excited about it.

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Scottish Country Dancing

When: Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St.
You don't have to be Scottish to enjoy Scottish Country Dancing. Beginners are always welcome, no partner required. Bring soft soled indoor shoes. RSVP to haliburtonscottishcountrydance@gmail.com by Tuesday evening. \$5 per person, per evening. to host the new pollinator plants.

Dementia Care Conference

When: June 3, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Where: Pinestone Resort, 4252 County Rd. 21
Affirming and Optimizing Life for Those Living With Dementia in Rural Canada! An exciting line-up of international and local presenters will share exciting and innovative approaches to rural care. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Lunch is provided, no cost to attend! Please register by May 22 on our ATAC Facebook page or email agingtogetherhc@gmail.com. Sponsored by McMaster University, Professor Sharon Kassalainen's research, and Aging Together as Community.

Horticultural Society Meeting and Youth Program

When: June 4, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Center, 55 Parkside St.
Please join the Minden & District Horticultural Society for our regular meeting and Junior Members Program. Our guest speaker MJ Irwin will be reviewing 'Mini Flower Show Competition Rules Ideas and Guidelines! This will be followed

by the monthly society meeting. The Junior Members Program will meet at the Minden Community Center from 6pm to 7 pm and is for children in grade 2 or higher that want to explore their interest in all things that grow.

Annual Spring Concert

When: Sunday June 9, 3 p.m.
Where: Lakeside Church, 9 Park St. Haliburton
Join the Haliburton Highlands Wind Symphony and the Haliburton Highlands Swing Band for our annual spring concert. Tickets available at Master's Bookstore in Haliburton, and at Minden Pharmasave. Adults \$15, Family \$30. Call 705-457-7894 for more information.

Youth Mental Health: Creating Places of Support

When: Tuesday, June 11 at 7 p.m.
Where: Schofield Room, Haliburton Legion, 719 Mountain St.
You are invited to a discussion with Mary Sisson, manager of the Youth Hub who will be speaking about the effect of social media, preceded by the chords and contralto of singer/songwriter Jodi Timgren. This is the fourth part of a series on "Making Our Communities Better Places." Open to all, no admission charge, light refreshments provided. Looking forward to seeing you there! Hosted by the Baha'is of Haliburton County.

Highlands Concert Band

When: Friday June 14 at 2 pm
Where: Lakeside Church, 9 Park St. Haliburton
Join the Highlands Concert Band for a spring concert. This is a free event, no tickets needed.

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The Great South Lake Pajama Project

Carolyn Caplar,
Al Webster,
Steve Webster
and Joy Webster
are ecstatic to
give back to the
community.
/Submitted



In October, four siblings from South Lake came up with the concept to collect and gift pajamas to those in need. They call themselves and their families Webcapsol. 44 years ago their parents, Roy & Therese Webster, bought a fixer upper on South Lake. After almost being completely refurbished their cottage burnt to the ground 10 years ago. The family will always be grateful that no one was hurt and the Minden Fire Department did a remarkable job. They rebuilt on the property and learned valuable lessons rebuilding.

It was now time for the families to give back.

So far over 200 pairs of Pajamas have been collected and the following eight organizations have been the recipients of these pajamas. Highland Crest Long Term Care Facility; Minden Urgent Care Clinic; The Geriatric Assessment Intervention Network; Five Counties Children’s Centre; SIRCH-children; YMCA Women & Children’s Centre; Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinic and HHHS Mental Health Services.

“This project would not be successful without the partnership with St. Paul’s Anglican Church & Thrift Shop, in Minden. We can not thank the community of this parish for allowing a bin to be stored in the The Minden Thrift Shop for drop-off’s”, says Joy Webster.

Recently the project was grateful to receive a donation from Pharmasave, in Minden. Pictured below. Also, another business called Stitch it with Lisa gave. The family is thrilled businesses are starting to donate.

There have been a total of 3 drop offs to organizations in November, April & May. The family collects 365 days a year, for all sizes and for more information please call, 705-796-8265.

Submitted by Joy Webster



County File No: 4616-OPA-017
Applicant: Township of Minden Hills
Municipality: Township of Minden Hills
Subject Lands: Geographic area of Township of Minden Hills in its entirety

Date of Decision: May 22, 2024
Date of Notice: May 29, 2024
Last Date of Appeal: June 18, 2024

NOTICE OF DECISION

**With respect to an Official Plan Amendment
Subsection 17 (35) and 22 of the *Planning Act***

A decision was made on the date noted above to approve Official Plan Amendment No. 17 to the Official Plan of the Township of Minden Hills Official Plan adopted by the Council for the Township of Minden Hills on February 8, 2024 via By-Law No. 2024-017, and approved by County Council on May 22, 2024.

Purpose and Effect of the Official Plan Amendment is to update the policies relating to additional dwelling units, policies with respect to lot creation, shoreline protection policies, and policies with respect to new lot creation within 1000 metres of a settlement boundary.

This amendment applies to the geographic area of the Township of Minden Hills in its entirety.

When/How to File a Notice of Appeal:

Any appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) must be filed with no later than 20 days from the date of this notice as shown above as the last date of appeal.

The notice of appeal must be filed with the County of Haliburton and it must:

- (1) set out the reasons for the appeal and the specific part of the proposed official plan or plan amendment to which the appeal applies; and
- (2) be accompanied by the fee prescribed by the Ontario Land Tribunal in the amount of \$400.00 (\$1000.00 for corporations) payable by certified cheque or money order to the “Minister of Finance”.
- (3) contain the completed Appellant Form (A1), which can be obtained directly from the Ontario Land Tribunal website <http://olt.gov.on.ca/forms-submissions/>

Who Can File a Notice of Appeal:

Only individuals, corporations or public bodies may appeal a decision of the approval authority to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT). A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or group on its behalf.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal unless, before the plan was adopted, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Land Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

When the Decision is Final:

The decision of the County of Haliburton is final if a Notice of Appeal is not received on or before the last day for filing a Notice of Appeal noted above.

Getting Addition Information:

Additional information about the amendment is available for public inspection during regular during regular office hours at the County of Haliburton Planning Department at the address noted below or from the office of the municipality noted above.

Mailing Address for Filing a Notice of Appeal:

County of Haliburton
Planning Department
11 Newcastle Street
P.O. Box 399
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

Attention:
Elizabeth Purcell, Director of Planning
Telephone: 705-286-1333
epurcell@haliburtoncounty.ca

Effect of Written and Oral Submissions on Decision:

No written or oral submissions were received in response to the notice of application sent to every landowner pursuant to Clause 17(15) of the Planning Act and Section 3 and 4 of O. Reg. 543/06 as amended.

Submissions from Public - None
Effect on Decision - N/A

NOTE: No key map is attached as the amendment applies to the geographic Township of Minden Hills in its entirety.

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

7	5	4	1	8	9	6	2	3
6	8	9	3	5	2	4	7	1
1	2	3	7	4	6	5	9	8
3	9	5	4	2	8	1	6	7
8	7	1	9	6	3	2	5	4
4	6	2	5	1	7	8	3	9
9	4	8	6	7	5	3	1	2
5	1	7	2	3	4	9	8	6
2	3	6	8	9	1	7	4	5

Rain; it's what plants crave

People brought out their wellies and umbrellas for a wet sale from the Minden & District Horticultural Society Plant and Seed sale on Saturday. / TIM YANO Special to the Times





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**Congrats
Haliburton
County athletes!**

The Haliburton County Red Wolves Special Olympics Ontario Team was awarded with outstanding achievement and inducted into the Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame on May 25. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Kate Campbell, one of six athletes inducted into the HH Sports Hall of Fame on May 25, accepts her award from former track and field coaches Paul Morissette and Walter Tose.



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	5	4	1					3
	8			5				
			7					
								7
			9	6	3		5	
	6	2				8		
		8						2
5	1			3		9	8	
		6				7		

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 12



The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School 1974 Redmen football team hold up their awards during the Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the AJ LaRue Arena in Haliburton on Saturday, May 25.



Three rising stars were inducted into the HH Sports Hall of Fame this year. Grade 11 HHSS student Cheyenne Degeer, pictured, has accepted a Division 1 scholarship to play hockey at St Lawrence University in Canton, New York in 2025 and has played for Team Ontario at the Canadian National U18 hockey championships. Evan Backus and Owen Nicholls also received Rising Star awards. Backus achieved second place in 300m hurdles at OFSAA Track and Field last year. Nicholls is a star curler and has competed in the Canadian Winter Games, OUA Championships, and Canadian U18 championships.



Gary Brohman, left, accepted his builder award from former student Mike Bradley. Brohman was one of four builders inducted at the ceremony. For the full list of 2024 inductees, visit hhshoff.ca.

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Bear necessities

A black bear ponders reality.
/Photo submitted by Tammy Nash





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**The Haliburton County Huskies
Junior A Hockey Team are seeking
billet families to provide a
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players for the 2024-25 season!**



Billet families play an
integral part in the success
and support of each player.

We ask that our players be
welcomed into your home,
treated like part of your
family, and be provided with
basic necessities during the
season.

It is important that we work
together to ensure the rules
of your home and our team
are respected by our players.

Players attend mid-August to mid-April

Responsibilities

- Provide healthy meals and snacks
- A bedroom of their own
- Access to laundry facilities
- Access to internet
- Not required to provide transportation

Compensation

- \$600 monthly per player to cover expenses such as meals.
- 2 season tickets per household (approximate value \$400 each)
- 2 complimentary butcher boxes throughout season

Contact Jess Jackson
huskieshousing@hotmail.com





Minden Times

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Wanted: scrap cars and trucks. Please call **249-332-1212**

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1 bedroom basement apartment. Newly built. Bright and spacious with in-floor heating. All inclusive rent of \$2000. Covers heat, hydro, water, internet, laundry, and property maintenance. Available July 1st. Call/text for more info **705-455-7484**.

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540 COMING EVENTS

Coming Home Quilt Show: Come celebrate the 27th anniversary of the Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild at the **Minden Curling Club**. **May 31, 3pm - 6pm and June 1, 10am - 6pm.** Admission \$10. Quilt exhibits, tea room, members boutique, demonstrations, scissor sharpener, vendors, and door prizes.

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660 CARD OF THANKS

The family of Keith Purdy wishes to give thanks to everyone who helped when he fell.

To the First Responders, Fire Truck Attendants and Ambulance Drivers, our sons Kevin & Daren who helped Dad, and to the countless others who have helped along the way.

Special thanks to our new friend Tabby from CIBC, she is a gem and I can not thank her enough.

Sincere Thanks and Gratitude
Donna Purdy



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THE TIMES MINDEN

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LOOK INSIDE



It's living history and it's pretty, too

British Soldiers, Common Mullein and Ragged Robin are among the old-fashioned flowers in Laurel MacDowell's Heritage Garden at Stanhope Museum.

See page 3

Kashagawigamog swimming safe

The local health unit has pronounced Lake Kashagawigamog safe for swimming in a report to Dysart et al council.

See page 9



Sandy Hawley wows 'em

Canada's legendary jockey entertains at Home Support dinner.

See page 17



Art Nye the lawnmower guy

Even the biggest cracks of thunder during Saturday's electrical storm couldn't drown out the roar of the 15th Annual Minden Kinsmen Truck Show and Pull. Hundreds of people turned out at the Minden Fairgrounds to see people like Art Nye pulling a big load in the riding lawn mower competition. See page 8 for more photos.

Got garbage? Get rid of it for free!

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

With the flash of a piece of paper, residents in Minden Hills will have the opportunity to dump their trash without having to pay a tipping fee.

No joke.

The idea was developed by the township after the Clean and Clear Bylaw was passed in April. Deputy-Reeve Jim McMahon wanted to ensure that people who live in the township had an opportunity to rid their properties of unwanted items without having to pay a tipping fee.

So the township came up with a free dump voucher for a one-time disposal of a maximum of one-quarter tonne (250 kg or 550 lbs or one standard pick-up truck load) of solid non-haz-

ardous residential waste to a municipal landfill.

"It's the first time we've offered our people a chance to do this," said Reeve Ross Rigney during a committee-of-the-whole meeting last week. "People will take the opportunity on a free day to clean some of their stuff up."

At first the committee was considering putting restrictions on the type of waste they would accept with the free voucher, but unanimously decided to allow people to get rid of whatever they want to.

"There's no question as far as I'm concerned - it's what they would usually take to the dump," Rigney said.

There will be one voucher for each residential property and will expire on December 31, 2002. It can be used anytime before then, pro-

see ONE FREE page 2

Minden taxes going up

Roads attract
most attention
in Minden Hills'
new budget

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

Roads were on the minds of Minden Hills councillors last week as they approved a 4.9 per cent increase on the total tax rate for residential property owners.

The new numbers mean that a residential property assessed at \$100,000 will pay \$999.06 for 2002, up \$47.11 from last year.

The budget was passed by council at a special meeting June 13, held after a committee-of-the-whole meeting the same day.

The main thrust of the increase will be felt at the roads department with money being spent on hard surface treatment to six roads including Rackety Trail, Little Bob Lake Road, Scotch Line Road East, part of Bobcaygeon Road and less than 1 km on South Lake Road. Two new vehicles for the roads department and major repairs to Salerno Lake Road Bridge are also in the works.

The township is faced with a hefty price tag of spending \$150,000 a year over the next 10 years to bring all the bridges up to standard, for a total of \$1.5 million dollars.

Treasurer Mary Jane Irwin says the budget committee was able to reduce the bridge spending by around \$30,000 to \$120,000, but the ongoing bridge repairs will be part of the budget for many years to come.

The 4.9 per cent represents the total tax rate for residential class properties in Minden Hills and includes a 13 per cent increase from the county and an unchanged education tax rate from last year. Property owners from all four municipalities will be sharing the pinch from the county increase.

"Overall I'm pleased with the budget and I think our taxpayers will be pleased as well," said Reeve Ross Rigney on the phone from his house. "We're not the highest and we're

see TAXPAYERS page 2

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HALIBURTON COUNTY FAIR

June 8th 2024

160th

ANNIVERSARY

Minden Fairgrounds

PRESENTED BY THE MINDEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SINCE 1864

SCHEDULE OF Events

- 9 am:

- Fairgrounds open
 - Vendors, artisans, demonstrations
- 10 am - 2 pm:

- Re/Max Balloon Rides Weather Permitting
- 10 am:

- Corn Hole tournament
- 10:15 am:

- Opening ceremonies with dignitaries and fair board executives
- 10 am - 4 pm:

- Animal reader, Lacey Piper
 - Red Wing Farms Cattle Display
 - Cattle Demo Show
 - Beer Tent Opens - (Boshkung Brewery)
- All Day:

- Classic & Antique Car Show
 - Kids Pony Rides (Little Stirrups Equine)
 - Curling Club: exhibits, demonstrations, woodworking and much more.
- 2:30 pm:

- Auction
- 3:30 pm:

- Horse pull
- All times are subject to change

Main Stage

★ **LIVE MUSIC** ★

1 pm: Country Music

Featuring: Crystal Gage and Kurk Bernard
with band members: Rick Loucks; Dale Rivard;
Dwayne Ferguson and Ken Post

11 am - 1 pm: Karaoke

Admission

Adults: \$10
Kids Ages 6 - 12: \$5
5 & under: No Charge
All kids events included in admission

Should I Bring Anything?

- Lawn chair(s)
- Rain Jacket/Gear (Just in case)
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Bug Spray
- Comfortable Footwear

Although some vendors and artisans may have debit transactions available - it would be a good idea to bring cash as well.

St. Johns Ambulance will be on site!

Things to See

THROUGHOUT THE DAY

- ~ OPP, Minden Fire Department, EMS
- ~ Natural Resources & Smokey The Bear
- ~ Crafts/Quilt Displays
- ~ Paint a Bus
- ~ Fur Harvesters
- ~ Haliburton County Fair 50/50 Draw (Only 2400 tickets sold)
- ~ Haliburton Rotary Club Truck Draw Tickets Available
- ~ Turtle Guardians and more!

Camping

\$25 per trailer -
Plus fair admission(s)

Limited Hydro - First Come, First Served

Arrive: Friday, June 7 after 8:30 am. **Depart:** Sunday, June 9 by 11 am

Food Vendors

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Fair Food Booth | Boshkung Brewery |
| Kawartha Dairy | Mulligans |
| Ice Cream | Chunky Fries |

Kids & Youth EVENTS

- ~ Bouncy Castles
 - ~ Pockets the Clown (with face painting)
 - ~ Dalrymple Rabbitry/Parrot
 - ~ Natural Resources & Smokey the Bear
 - ~ Top Shot Hockey
 - ~ Little Stirrups Equine Pony Rides
- ~ Turtle Guardians
 - ~ Farmers Association Farm Animals
 - ~ Kids Games
 - ~ Durham All About Farming - Interactive Games